KEYLESS ENTRY MODULE AND METHOD

ABSTRACT

Methods and apparatus are provided for a key-less system for actuating a lock responsive to a valid OPEN signal. A first portion is continuously coupled to a power source and a second portion receives power from the source only when a coupling switch is ON. The first portion comprises a keypad for entry of a lock actuation code, and a detector that senses the first keystroke and turns the switch ON. The second portion includes an RF transmitter and preferably a memory with valid actuation codes stored therein, and a processor coupled to the memory, to the keypad and to the RF transmitter. When the entered and stored keystrokes match, the RF transmitter sends an OPEN signal to the lock. The method comprises detecting the first keystroke, turning on the power switch ON, comparing the entered and stored keystrokes and if matched, transmitting an OPEN command to the lock.